

DRAFT MINUTES

Name of Meeting: Pharmacy Liaison Committee

Date of Meeting: December 19, 2006

Length of Meeting: 10:05 AM – 11:55 AM

Location of Meeting: DMAS 13th Floor Boardroom

DMAS Attendees:

Tyrone Wall, Compliance Specialist

Bryan Tomlinson, Director Health Care Services

Rachel Cain, Pharmacist

Katina Goodwyn, Contract Monitor

Keith Hayashi, Pharmacist

Merinda Battle, Health Care Services Analyst

Committee Members:

Mike Ayoite, VACDS

Becky Snead, Virginia Pharmacist Association (VPhA)

Bill Hancock, Long Term Care Pharmacy Coalition

Mike Maloney, Virginia Chain Drug Stores (VACDS)

Other Attendees:

Richard Grossman, Vectre Corporation

Anne Leigh Kerr, Troutman Sanders LLP

Kemper Huers, VACDS

Gerry Serody, Care Pharmacies

Miles Hoge, VPHA/WRSS

Call to Order

Minutes from the last meeting have been posted on the web site.

Introduction

Bryan Tomlinson welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for everyone to introduce themselves.

Program Design

DMAS will have to define what a specialty drug is. Once that definition has been established, criteria have to be proposed. The National Association of Chain Drug Stores has developed “White Papers” that will help DMAS with an overview of specialty pharmacy innovations.

Identifying disease states will help with the development of these criteria. Best practices and principles will need to be incorporated into the program design.

Utilization Data Review

Ms. Goodwyn summarized utilization data with the Committee for specialty pharmacy claims. The review period time was 9-01-2005 through 8-30-2006. Medicare Part D recipients have been excluded from the data. J Codes are not included in the data. The data in the utilization report will be used as a template to help design the Specialty Drug Program.

Feedback

Anne Leigh Kerr is researching information with different drug manufacturers with regard to their specialty drug programs. Ms. Kerr stated that most of the manufacturers work toward doctor education programs through help lines, office visits, flyers or brochures. She will be forwarding information to DMAS as it is received from the manufacturers.

Special Guest

Mr. Gerry Serody, CEO and Chairman of Care Pharmacies summarized the operational aspects of Care Pharmacies. Care Pharmacies is a 60 store franchise system located in Maryland, District of Columbia, and Virginia. Care Pharmacies has maintained an exclusive ADAPT contract since 1994. Care Pharmacy has eight disease states identified; Oncology, HIV, Hepatitis C, Infertility, Hemophilia, Organ Transplant, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Growth Disease/Anemia States. Mr. Serody stated that reasonable access to the medication is one of the main concerns for physicians and patients. Another is to be able to track compliance of the patients.

Questions presented to the Pharmacy Liaison Committee

Question

Which drug classes/conditions are best managed through a specialty drug program?

Answer

Mr. Serody suggested that DMAS first look at diseases that are communicable to others in the population. He also stated that the worst diseases are the ones that are asymptomatic. Other choices that Mr. Serody also suggested are Oncology and Hepatitis C.

Question

How do specialty pharmacies (e.g. those implemented by commercial health plans) and /or manufacturers programs impact pharmacy operations?

Answer

Specialty pharmacies will need more time to consult with patients that are taking specialty drugs. This consultation time will take the pharmacist away from filling prescriptions. In a retail setting most pharmacists do not have the time to consult a patient for 20 to 30 minutes if needed. Most pharmacies do not have the resources to maintain a specialty pharmacy. Also it is not financially feasible to operate a specialty pharmacy with the time that it involves.

Question

What specialty drug program models (best practices) are you aware of that DMAS should consider?

Answer

The “Wheel and Hub” is a very effective model to consider when starting a specialty drug program.

The next meeting will be held on April 24, 2007

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM